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Forecast Hatch Date of Nematodirus and Disease Severity

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The forecast 10% hatch date in the Newcastle area, from Cockle Park 1ft temperature means for the first 20 days in March were compared with rating of disease severity on a national basis. The results were:-

Disease Severity

LOW	BELOW AVERAGE	ABOVE AVERAGE	HIGH
1957 March 25th	1952 March 31st	1953 April 6th	1951 April 20
1961 March 25th	1959 April 1st	1964 April 14th	1954 April 21
	1967 April 3rd	1968 April 15th	1963 April 21
	1966 April 4th	1956 April 17th	1965 April 23
	1960 April 7th		1958 April 26
			1955 April 30
			1962 April 30

This suggests the following guide-lines:-

		National disease intensity
Forecast 10% hatch date in Newcastle area	(March 27th or earlier	LOW
	(March 28th-April 6th	Below Average
	(April 7th-April 19th	Above Average
	(April 20th or later	HIGH

This reliable guidance is not surprising as previous disease forecasts had been based on March 1st-31st mean earth temperatures at Oxford and Cockle Park but it does show that forecast can be made with some confidence by March 20th.

Any comments or suggestions on this paper should be sent to the author.

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